

## TALK OF WASHINGTON

Democrats in a Hole and Can't Get Out.

WILL TAKE EIGHT YEARS

The Republican Majorities in Houses Will Govern.

Washington, Sept. 26.—Everything now points to an extremely bitter Presidential campaign next year. If for no other reason, the contest will be lacking in finality because of the extent of the Republican mastery of the senate, which could not be by any reasonable possibility be overcome during the next Presidential term. A Democratic President could do nothing without some Republican support. Mr. Bryan could be elected and no free silver bill passed. Mr. Cleveland could be elected and there need be no tariff revision except on Republican lines. In these circumstances, the Democrats could not hope to accomplish much by winning the Presidency, nor would the Republicans, so far as organic results are concerned, lose much. Either side would have the patronage. In the event of success, but the American public can never be aroused to a high pitch of excitement over which of two sets of officeholders shall fill the places. The house of representatives, a new body each two years, might be carried by the opposition. In fact, the Democrats could hardly elect a President without carrying enough of the country to give them the house.

The senate contains fifty-seven Republicans and thirty-three Democrats. One-third of the senate, or thirty members, are already elected for terms which do not end until March 3, 1905. Of these eighteen are Republicans and twelve are Democrats. Of those whose terms expire two years earlier, sixteen are Republicans and fourteen are Democrats. Of those whose terms expire with the present administration, twenty-three are Republicans and seven are Democrats. If the Democrats should gain at once to carry every state that they stood any chance of carrying in the party's best days, they could not recover the senate before the expiration of the next Presidential term. Nor is this outlook without practical effects. It is commonly remarked that the stock market will continue low until the Presidential election has been safely passed. But there can be no legislation before the senate affecting railroad or financial interests which does not secure considerable Republican support, and the Republican party may be counted upon not to wander far from the desires of the dominant commercial forces. In case the Republicans put a plank in their next platform calling for a revision of the tariff "by its friends," it might seem the part of wisdom for those who have any confidence in such a revision to give them support, since revision by its opponents will be out of the question for at least another four years.

The attention of the nation which has been attracted to a chance in the fourth-class postoffice at Greenwood, Del., yielding a salary of \$100 a year, illustrates the far-reaching effect of an occasional tickle remark. The allegation that Miss Hullah B. Todd, who performed the duties of the office faithfully, was "particularly and personally obnoxious" to Senator Allee, either as an expression of Mr. Payne's own estimate of the case or merely a quotation from Senator Allee, was most unfortunate for all concerned in the utterance. It is estimated that the single phrase will make Delaware cost Addicks \$100,000 more than otherwise would have been necessary this next time he has to buy it.

There is nothing strikingly unusual about the case aside from the vulgar and brutal way in which the politician's side has been presented to the public. Patronage is constantly changing with the personnel of the senate. Without doubt the election of Mr. Latham of New Hampshire, who succeeded Mr. Chandler, has affected scores of offices. Divisions of territory are by no means unusual, especially where senators are identified with opposing factions. Messrs. Hanna and Kunkler have long had a division of territory in Ohio, and their private secretaries often meet for amicable conference.

## Gives Instant Vigor.

Weak Men Can Have It Free by Sending Name and Address—Imparts Strength and Vigor For Life.

You Will Be Delighted the First Day.



"Feels So Good to Be My Old Self Again."

How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost vitality, night losses, varicocele, etc., and enlarge small weak organs to full size and vigor. Simply send your name and address to Dr. Knapp Medical Co., 308 Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., and they will gladly send the free booklet with full directions so any man may easily cure himself at home.

If you are not troubled with sexual weakness don't write. But if you are weak, have shrunken organs or night losses write at once as the remedy will give instant relief. You will feel stronger and vigorous from the very start. This is certainly a most generous offer, and the following taken from their daily mail shows what men think of their generosity:

"Dear Sirs:—The results could not have been better. I noticed a warm feeling, as of returning life, an exquisite experience of renewed power the first day I used your treatment, and I cannot withhold an expression of gratitude to you for having thus led me to the way of restoration, strength and vigor. Everything looks brighter, life offers more than I ever supposed it would, and nothing can be of more service to a weakened man than your precious receipt."

over disputed or overlapping claims. There is little in the Allee case that is not inherent in the spoils system. The fact that the displaced office holder happened to be a woman appeals to the sense of chivalry, but it does not otherwise constitute an unusual exhibition of the plan under which appointments are made.

The system of which the present case is a disgusting expression has arisen as a result of the senate's being made to share the appointing power with the President, just as it shares the treaty-making power. It works out that a President must accede to the wishes of the senators in order to get his nominations confirmed. The country has had two recent examples of the extremes of this sort. Practically all of President McKinley's nominations were confirmed; the senate in neglecting to confirm three or four merely acted the part of an engrossing clerk who detects unintended errors or makes allowance for later information. He vetoed no bills which congress had passed, except a few which the real leaders wanted to have vetoed. The relations of President and senate were absolutely harmonious. Mr. Cleveland, on the other hand, vetoed much of the work of congress, and discredited right and left the advice of senators of his own party concerning appointments. His nominations as a result were badly cut up. Two of his nominees for the supreme court, men pre-eminently prepared for that bench, failed of confirmation. No one supposes that the senate rejected William B. Hornblower for the supreme court, and confirmed John Goodnow for general at Shanghai, because one was fit and the other unfit. It rejected Hornblower because President Cleveland had not "recognized" the Democratic senators from New York; it confirmed Goodnow, in spite of his record, because President McKinley was having a "square deal" with the senators.

President Roosevelt has been considerably more critical than his predecessor regarding nominations sent to him for confirmation, although Mr. McKinley in not a few instances, besought individual senators not to press names upon him. By his amiability and tact he accomplished much in persuading them from their worst plans.

The disposal of Presidential offices is one of the problems for which nobody has presented a thoroughly satisfactory solution. How is any President to know the personal qualifications of scores of persons in different states, whom he must select for positions of responsibility, even under a most highly developed system of civil service reform? He must have advice and information from somebody. Since these are party offices, it is assumed that the men whom the same party of any state puts to the front offer the best reflection of its majority sentiment. But the commissioning of legislative and executive branches in the selection of subordinates for the executive departments often leads to such distressing cases as that which has been brought to light in Delaware.

Miss Todd cannot understand why she is "particularly and personally obnoxious" to Allee when she never saw him but once in her life, and that was when she stepped into his little jewelry shop in Dover to make a small purchase for which she paid the schedule price. Why he should turn his back on an old customer because he has risen to the United States senate, is president of one of Mr. Addicks' gas companies, and has become a most serviceable man for Addicks, she affects not to comprehend, and her statement of the case is calculated to appeal so strongly to the voters of Delaware as to do Addicks considerable damage.

### YE FAITHFUL DOGGE.

Once upon a time there lived an Olde Dogge who was known far & wide as a dogge who was faithful to his master & kind to all little dogges.

He would go half a mile out of his way to do a kindness to any one, & he was a faithful guardian of the household. Also he would lie awake nights to keep ye foxe from ye barnyard.

Time alle ye countrie around there was notte a more highly respectable dogge, & his life was a model of goodness.

& people would speak of hymne saying:

"Whatt'e a goode olde dogge Towser la! & y' would patte hymne oone ye heade juste to see hymne wagge his tayle & smile benevolently."

But one day whenne ye faithful dogge was olde & nearly ready to be gathered to his fathers he made a bad break.

Just one bad break after a whole life of rectitude.

For his master found hymne with wool in his teeth.

Thenne did all ye neighborhood rise up & outte hymne bitterly. Yea, they spared alle ye other dogges which hadde been badde from their youth; but ye Olde Dogge they killed with stones, and then flung his body into ye mill-pond.

Because he hadde mad one bad break.

& alle ye other dogges who had been killinge sheepe ever since they were able to jump ye pasture fence showed their teeth & sayde:

"Whatt'e a miserable olde villian Olde Towser was to be sure! I never could bear to have hymne arounde, anyway!"

& ye goode sisters gathered att'e ye sewing circle & tore his memory to pieces & were scandalized.

They forgot about his twenty years of goodness. Butte they remembered his one badde break.

"Whatt'e is the world comynge to?" they woulde whynne, & then they would sigh and talk about Olde Towser's bad break.

But whenne one of the ordinary bad dogges would be found killinge sheepe the sisters would giggle & say with many blunses:

"What a wild dogge he is, to be sure! & merr'e & alack! but dogges be very like mankind. They let one bad break outt'wagge a whole life of goodness."

& this is ye lesson of ye Olde Dogge Towser:

First Knapp—Honesty is ye best policy—if thou canst keep it going; but if att'e any time it slip a cog the world sitteth on thy neck.

Ye Cross-wallop—Be good and virtuous; but remember always thatte ye would walteth arounde ye corner with a hammer.

Third Sneeze—Better be alle badde than half-way goode—Lowell Otis Reese in Leslie's Weekly.

A few years ago quartz minek that would not yield \$50 to the ton were despised and rejected as unprofitable. Now, with improved methods of extraction, ore containing as low as \$1 a ton pays dividends to the stockholders.

Patrick Dracoll, who owns fear of the richest silver and gold mines in Arizona, continues his personal expenses to the lowest possible figures. It is said that for years he has spent no more than \$30 a month. He is liberal in his gifts to worthy persons and purposes, however.

Powerful alcoholic beverages are distilled from bananas, the milk of coconuts, rice and peas. The Japanese distill spirit from plums, peaches and the flower of the motherwort. The Chinese make an alcoholic drink from plums.

## STUDY OF THE CATFISH

Government Expert Reports Their Interesting Habit.

GREAT AMOUNT OF SENSE

Preserve Their Lives Better Than Many People.

Washington, Sept. 25.—George M. Bowers, the fish commissioner, declares in a recent report that the catfish had not been given the attention it deserves, especially when the amount of space devoted to the black bass or the wily pike is taken into consideration. These Mr. Bowers was inclined to regard as the most intellectual fish until he acquired a closer acquaintance with the catfish through some investigations made by Professor Kendall of his staff.

The catfish abhors running water. It likes to find a pond with a muddy bottom on which it can repose after having satisfied its ravenous appetite. Professor Kendall says the appetite of an ordinary catfish is a wonder. It eats incessantly day and night, prowling along the bottom of the pond or river with its barbels widely spread, searching the mud beneath and the water above for its prey. It is not fastidious. Anything from an angleworm to a piece of tomato can be bolted with the greatest relish. In the search of food it displays great strategic ability. Professor Kendall has watched catfish carefully select a spot where the mud is the same color as their dark skin, bury their yellow stomachs in the mud with only barbels and dusky forehead exposed, and then wait for hours for the unwary prey. When it comes along out darts the catfish, and that is the end of his victim. This fact alone, the fish commission experts declare, is enough to show that the cat is a "very intellectual fish."

But there are other reasons for boasting of his brain power. The experts say that the species is easily tamed, and can be trained like pigs. When it is recalled that there are several troops of educated pigs going about the country this is no small compliment. The catfish knows the law of self-preservation as well as any other of the finny tribe. If the water becomes warm in summer, he survives because he knows how to make the best of a bad situation. Should the air supply in the water fail, the catfish, instead of turning up on his back, will set about taking care of himself. He will come to the surface, leisurely renew the air in his swimming bladder, and even, frog-like or turtle-like, swallow air in bulk, trusting to stomach respiration.

Should the pond go entirely dry, the catfish will seek out some comfortable crack in the mud and lie dormant for days or weeks until the pond fills up again. He is a great lover of home, and when once comfortably settled in a pond will move only on extraordinary inducements. When the spring freshets come the catfish does not permit himself to be washed out of home, as most other fish do, for he buries himself in the mud and if the flood dislodges him it only does so by carrying away the bottom of the pond. After such a catastrophe he hunts up a new abode, even giving up his all commanding habit of eating until he is situated again to his liking.

The catfish takes exceptionally good care of his family. Both the male and the female watch over the little ones, and Professor Kendall was agreeably surprised to find that the prodigious feeding habits of the old fish do not go so far as to permit it to eat its own young as do bass and other more highly esteemed fish. Mr. Kendall is watching a pair of old catfish raise their young discovered that when he threw pieces of beef liver into the pond for the young the old fish would seize it and apparently swallow it, together with the dozens of little catfish which were eating at and hanging onto the meat. They invariably injected the young fish from their mouths quite uninjured, the parent fish seeming to be able to discriminate its proper food.

The fish commission is of the opinion that the catfish is much underrated also by those who gauge its commercial value. They say that it is one of the very best pan fishes. Its meat is white, crisp and juicy, and of excellent flavor. The experts consider the flesh of the channel catfish superior to that of the black bass, the wall eye, the yellow perch, or any other percid fishes. Among fresh water fish they say it is inferior only to the white fish and the trout. The other varieties of catfish are also good for table purposes, but their flesh is nutritious and of a fair flavor.

Professor Kendall calls this the poor man's fish, and predicts that when the public comes to know the merits of the catfish better there will be a great deal of money made by raising them in artificial ponds.

### YEAR OF BAD NEWS.

This is a year of bad news, and little but bad news, for the eaters of fish. Fishermen have not been able to extract from the sea this year, it appears, as good fish as ever came out of it. All New England is excited by the report that the catch of codfish on the Newfoundland banks is falling off. Buzzards Bay now affords only small squeteague, where Gray's wharf once abounded. Bluefish are said to be thinning out along the eastern coast. The lobster for years has been maintained only by careful nursing, and now, to add the last straw, word comes from South Carolina that all the shrimp caught this year are undersized. A Boston sportsman who recently made a trip to Woods Hole on purpose to eat a fresh caught bluefish, as had been his custom from year to year. He got his fish, looked at it critically, and asked: "Is this the best you can do?" "Yes, sir," said the truthful fisherman, sadly; "and that came from New York." This would imply that, however bad the situation may be, the New Yorkers are getting the best of it. But Massachusetts deserves pity, if not for the impairment of one of her industries, at least for the failure of jokes about "the passing of the fishball," which follow in a torrent story of the codfish's disappearance. Envious outsiders, too, are quick to assert that the Newfoundland fisheries may go into Davy Jones' locker for all they care, because the salt fish and boneless cod of commerce have for years been nothing more than disguised pollock, jewfish and Mississippi "cats." There may be a gain of comfort, too, in the recent news that a Philadelphia vessel had brought in a good catch of tilapia. This is a mysterious creature, very good to eat, but so eccentric in its habits that it is only caught in quantity at long intervals. The last school was caught so long ago, in fact, that fishermen thought it extinct. If the Fish Commission only knew where to find it when wanted it would be a splendid substitute for the cod. It is well

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store is headquarters for "Reliable Goods at Low Prices." Very complete stocks in all departments—everything in an up-to-date store.

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to remember at the same time that this is not the first occasion when men fancied themselves such mighty fishermen as they were exhausting the stock of the sea. We need not jump to the conclusion that the codfish, shellfish, and bluefish are going to the dogs.

David H. Moffat, known nearly as well in New York as in Denver is one of the self-made financial magnates of the far west. These are given as some of his success maxims: "If you are afraid you are not going to hear opportunity's knock

sea that your door is equipped with an electric bell"; "A handcar on the main line is worth two Pullmans on the side-track"; "Always let the other fellow see a red light"; "It is noticed that the school of adversity and the college of hard work are not turning out any failures"; "The greatest spendthrift of all is the man who does not know the value of an hour."

The most lofty clouds measured last year were at a height of 36,000 feet and moved 36 miles an hour.

To seize a man's residence for debt is unlawful in Turkey, and sufficient land to support him is also exempt from seizure. The record for speed in railway construction has been achieved on the Baluchistan railway, which was pushed across a treeless plain at three and a quarter miles a day.

Eighty-five and one-half million pounds of tobacco passed last year through the Custom House for home consumption in the United Kingdom. A rifle bullet is traveling at its greatest

speed not as it leaves the muzzle, but at about ten feet in front of the muzzle.

In Holland, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland a passenger can carry no luggage free.

France has about four thousand dunes a year and Italy twenty-eight hundred on an average.

The United Kingdom has only 3,800,000 acres of wood land out of its total area of 77,750,000 acres.

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